(i) if not registered, what is the procedure adopted to avoid the trouble experienced by non-official owners?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) No.

(b) There was correspondence on the subject between the Cochin Darbar and the Madras Government. The proposals made by the Madras Government could not be accepted.

(c) No.
(d) Yes.
(e) Yes.
(f) Yes.
(g) Yes.
(h) Information is not available
(i) do

Officers employed in licensing country boats.

378. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will the Government be pleased—

(a) to supply a list of the officers engaged in licensing the country boats, showing also the present salary drawn by each one of these officers; and

(b) to state whether these officers are entrusted with any work other than the licensing of country boats; and if so, what these works are?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) A list is appended. (*Appendix VIII*).

(b) Yes. Besides licensing country boats these officers are engaged in licensing and registering motor and steam vessels. They are also engaged in controlling canal traffic enforcing time-tables for line boats, checking overload, etc.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Is there now any Canal Officer posted at the Jail Jetty, Ernakulam?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There are checkers there.

Licensing of country boats—Officers engaged in the work.

379. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement showing

(a) the number of country boats licensed in the State in 1108, classified according to their size; and

(b) the amounts realised as license fees from each class?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—A statement showing the particulars is appended. (*Appendix IX.*)

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—There is a light given here of the boats with their tonnage. Are not boats below one ton taxed?

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—No.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—For boats above 1 ton and below 2 tons, what is the rate charged? Is it that of one ton, or 2 tons?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—If the boat is below 1½ tons, it is charged as one ton. If it is above 1½ it is charged as 2.

Recruitment to Government service.

380. **Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have any fixed policy in the matter of recruitment of members of the backward and the depressed classes into the services of the State;

(b) if there is any such fixed policy, what is it;

(c) is the same adhered to invariably?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) The policy of the Government is to give preference to candidates from the Backward and Depressed Classes as far as possible.

(b) Vide answer above.

(c) Yes.

Public Service Commission.

381. **Mr. P. C. Varkey.**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that a resolution was passed in the last meeting of the Council to constitute a Public Service Commission in the State;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in pursuance of the resolution to constitute the Commission without further delay;

(c) has any action been taken in the matter after the passing of the resolution to expedite the constituting of the Commission; and if so, what it is?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The matter is under the consideration of Government.

Mr. P. C. Varkey.—Am I to understand that the step taken only "consideration"? Nothing more was done?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Nothing more has to be done.

Mr P. C. Varkey.—There are some steps to be taken in the constitution of a Commission. May I know whether any step has been taken.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The step to be taken is, to come to a definite conclusion. We are trying to come to a definite conclusion.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—What is the reason for this delay?

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APPENDIX IX.

List of Country boats licensed in the year 1108 at Ernakulam, Mattancheri and Cranganur, classified according to their sizes with the total amounts collected for each size.

Serial No.	Classes of Vessels	No. of Vessels	Amount Rs.	Remarks
1	1 Ton boats	1231	1,231	
2	2 Tons do	1057	2,114	
3	3 Tons do	445	1,335	
4	4 Tons do	375	1,500	
5	5 Tons do	182	909—8—0	Only Rs. 4—8—0 was realised for one vessel being the balance after the payment to the Port Officer
6	6 Tons do	110	660	
7	7 Tons do	76	532	
8	8 Tons do	68	544	
9	9 Tons do	99	891	
10	10 Tons do	107	1,070	
11	11 Tons do	64	704	
12	12 Tons do	34	408	
13	13 Tons do	27	351	
14	14 Tons do	17	238	
15	15 Tons do	13	195	
16	16 Tons do	7	112	
17	17 Tons do	3	51	
18	18 Tons do	4	72	
19	19 Tons do	7	133	
20	20 Tons do	4	80	
21	21 Tons do	5	105	
22	22 Tons do	2	44	
23	23 Tons do	3	69	
24	24 Tons do	2	48	
25	28 Tons do	1	28	
26	30 Tons do	2	60	
27	31 Tons do	3	93	
28	32 Tons do	1	64	
29	33 Tons do	7	231	
30	35 Tons do	1	35	
31	36 Tons do	1	36	
32	37 Tons do	1	37	
33	38 Tons do	1	38	

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